

VILLAGE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
March 3, 2025

The Lincoln Village Council met on Monday March 3, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance included, President Phillips, Treasurer Mahalak, Clerk Somers and Council Member/Zoning Administrator Durham, Lucas, Potts, Schick, Skuse and Wambold. The minutes of the February meeting were approved on a motion from Durham with support from Wambold. The Treasurer's report was approved subject to audit on a motion from Wambold with support from Skuse. The bills were approved for payment on a motion from Wambold with support from Potts. Clerk Somers presented a list of amendments to the current budget and a brief discussion followed. A motion was made by Skuse with support from Potts to approve the amendments to the 2024-2025 budget. Carried. Eric Bates addressed the board to thank Gary for his work in snow removal this year. He also expressed concern about feral cats within the Village. It was noted that there have been 20 cats that have been caught and neutered and released. He also has some paperwork for the Zoning Administrator and would like to talk to him at his convenience regarding a zoning issue. Phil Potter addressed the board about plans for the Village. He stated that this is becoming a ghost town. He expressed concern about bat droppings that are on the outside of the old bank building in town. He stated that he doesn't understand why there are so many empty buildings that aren't being taken care of with blight issues. He questioned whether or not the DDA should be disbanded because that would allow the Village Council to address more of the problems themselves. A discussion followed. President Phillips stated that we are in the process in getting our Master Plan/Recreation Plan and ordinances re-done. She said we are trying to secure grant funding to demolish a building in the DDA region. We are continually working to make things better. In Parks and Recreation news, Mahalak stated that 3 small picnic tables and 2 crawling caterpillars have been ordered for the Wee People park. Funds to pay for the items was taken from the bottle returns. The bottle return bin will be taken down at Marsha's house as soon as the weather permits. We urge people to give their bottles and cans to the Alcona Humane Society now. The Planning Commission meeting will be held March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Denise Cline will be attending to talk about the upcoming public meeting. There is a survey that we would like to have everyone about their vision for the community. It can be found on the Village website at [Villageoflincoln.com](http://Villageoflincoln.com).

You do not have to be a village resident to participate. Jason Durham gave the Zoning report. Several letters will be sent out soon for properties that are in violation. Nate Walker gave the FD report. There was 20 first responder runs and one fire run this past month. He stated that there was a great response by our department. There was a mutual training last month with Harrisville FD. Nate is assigning positions within the FD. Brody Potts will be responsible for vehicle maintenance and Brett Wambold will be doing grant writing. Four new sets of turnout gear have been received for newer members of the department and they have been measured for new wildland gear. Nate stated that he has a goal to be using all battery operated equipment by the end of the year. He is looking at purchasing site lights that are battery operated. He is looking into purchasing lockers for gear to be kept at the hall. He is also working on Standard Operating Procedures for the department. He has paperwork for a DNR grant for dry hydrants. The money would have to be paid in full up front and reimbursement would be made from the DNR to the Village. Potts stated that he would like for the Council to express their thanks to the Alpena City Fire Department for their help with one of our FD trainees who had a medical issue at a seminar held there recently. Council Members agreed. Gary Graves gave the maintenance report. He thanked Lornie, Brett and Jason for all their help in snow removal. Gary will be meeting with an electrician to see about fixing several repairs that need to be done. The road commission will be helping about on one of our road repairs. Repairs will be addressed on the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Traverse Bay Street this year. No sewer report was given. Presidents report and Roads report was given in writing, A motion was made by Wambold with support from Potts to allow President Phillips to sign paperwork for the Memorandum of Understanding between the Village of Lincoln and NEMCOG. Carried. This is for a \$30,000 grant for an economic recovery plan due to the loss of Viking Energy. Potts made a motion to adopt the Title VI Non Discrimination Plan as per the MDOT directive and to allow President Phillips to sign those documents. Wambold offered support. Carried. A motion was made Schick with support from Wambold to send a letter of support for the BEAD grant. This is for broadband internet for the entire county. Motion carried. A map was given regarding placement of 4 traffic counters for a traffic study within the Village. A motion to adjourn was made by Schick support Wambold. Carried.

Linda K. Somers

Village Clerk